

# EDITORIALS

THOUGHT FOR TODAY — Future years are already threatened with more deficits because of built-in growth factors in existing legislation.—President Eisenhower.

## Schools Revisited

While wandering through the hallways and classrooms of several schools during Public Schools Week, it suddenly occurred to us that Torrance schools are about like those found anywhere.

The teachers were smilingly greeting the parents of their little charges, students were obviously on their best behavior as they explained their classroom projects, and everyone was having a wonderful time.

Just like many other public schools elsewhere in America, it was apparent that the emphasis of the local schools has been placed on endeavors to provide little Johnny and Mary with happy, carefree learning situations.

That, unfortunately, seems to be the first requisite—keep the kids happy, make school work fun.

Whether the fundamental skills are required is secondary.

## A Hick Town

While Councilman Jay Beasley and the HERALD are not always in agreement, his remarks at a recent council session struck a note which we have been trying to sound for many years.

Urging the city to begin studying ways to develop the civic center to include a library, auditorium, and other public facilities, the councilman answered queries about financing with the comment:

"We're going to have to ask the people what they want. If they want to have a hick town, let them have it."

It is apparent that the Walteria councilman shares our belief that it takes more than numbers to make a city. Too many of our leaders seem to think population alone determines All-America ratings.

While Torrance is approaching (still) the magical 100,000 mark in population, it remains a small town today in terms of the facilities which are essential in developing the cultural potentials of an area.

Mr. Beasley's approach is about as right as rain. The city is going to have to ask the people what they want to do—and then do it.

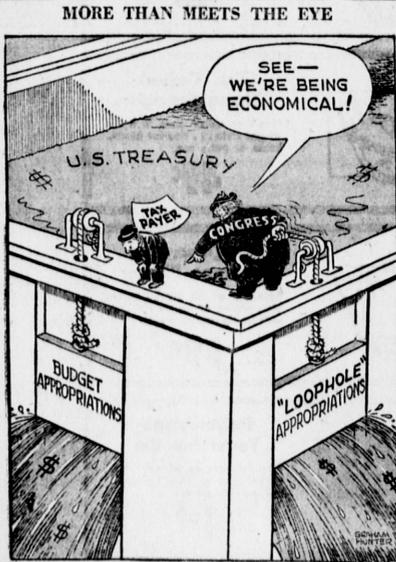
## A Welcome Truce

A truce in the running battle between the city and the Dominguez Water Corp. on the matter of serving water to proposed home tracts in the Victor Precinct promises to bring about the rapid development of that area, one of the few remaining open areas of the city.

We think the council acted wisely in calling a halt to its previously stated plan to impose conditions on developments in the area which would force them to use city water instead of water from the Dominguez Water Corp., a Public Utilities Commission controlled private water company.

As much as the council would like to take over all of the private and mutual water firms in the city, one of the cardinal rules of our nation is that private property rights cannot be acquired by a government without due process of law and just compensation for the value of those rights.

The city isn't rich enough to pay the price, yet.



STAR GAZER by CLAY R. POLLAN. Your Daily Activity Guide. To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

## Who Holds The Bag?



RAMBLINGS by Ronnie Saunders

## Added Time Moves Family

With Daylight Savings Time back again for the past week, Torrance residents have begun emerging from the confused state which always takes place when a family's living pattern is shoved around and are settling down into the new habits brought about by that extra hour at the end of the day.

After the uniform chorus of complaints about rising before the chickens subsided—and several persons arrived at church and work a trifle late this week—sounds of appreciation of bonus daylight hours have begun to make themselves heard hereabouts.

Where only a little over a week ago Pop and the kids retired to the television screen after dinner while Mom did the dishes, one notices whole families outdoors after dinner chatting with neighbors as the men lean on their lawnmowers or take practice shots at a fluffy cotton white golf ball and the kids drag wagons and bikes up and down the streets while Mom culls weeds out of the flower beds that are to brighten the patios and lawns of Torrance this Summer.

The habit of taking the family for a drive after supper renews its seasonal popularity, and ice cream sales go up. Would-be baseball players on uniformed boys' teams head for league ballparks to get in an extra hour of practice.

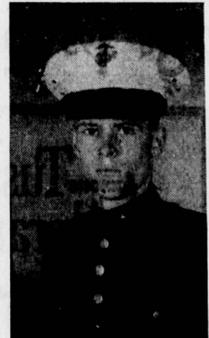
Down at the sea shore,

couples and families stroll along its sidewalk above the beach and the more adventuresome take off shoes for a walk in the cool damp evening sand. An occasional brave soul can be seen bobbing in the waves like a cork as the pink sun hits the water in the violet haze of evening.

Notable by its absence in this year's after-dinner strolls along the esplanade from Hollywood Riviera Beach to Torrance Beach is the rubble of the Hollywood Riviera Club that always reminded me of the decayed ruins of a Mediterranean

castle, perched atop the cliffs above the water.

Bedtimes are hard hit in families with kiddies, but when the sun streaming in their windows in the morning wakes those same children the following day, they seem none the worse for having missed a few of the proverbial forty winks. Perhaps their good spirits on arising are aroused by thoughts of another evening of playing outdoors after dinner or going for ice-cream with Mom and Pop, or practicing ball with the team or spending the twilight hour taking a walk down at the beach.



ENDS TRAINING... Gibson M. Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Gibson of 20848 Dalton, completed recruit training recently at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

## LAW IN ACTION

## Partners in Crime In Years Gone By

A criminal conspiracy arises when two or more people agree to commit a crime and do something about it. The conspiracy itself may call for a prison term, even though the crime they plan might only call for a jail term or fine.

The law on conspiracy aims, among other things, to get at higher ups who may plot, but stay away from the actual crime. So each partner gets the blame for what any of the other plotters may do.

Suppose the plot called for one person to drive the getaway car, one to look out for police, the third to rob a bank, and a fourth one, in a far city, to hide the loot and the others. If the robber killed a teller, all four might be guilty of conspiracy to commit murder (as well as robbery). They might also be guilty of murder and robbery.

not have to prove that the partners shared in the gains or losses of 'their crime. Thus, several actually competing bookies agreed to rent and take bets at the same place. After a raid, a court found them all guilty of conspiracy. A court may convict a person of either (1) the conspiracy or (2) the committing of the crime itself, or (3) both.

In a trial the prosecution has to prove that the accused (1) agreed to commit the crime, and (2) did something about it.

An attempted crime (itself also a crime) is not quite in the same thing. For 'attempts' are charged where the intended crime itself misfired, while the essence of 'conspiracy' is the agreement itself, successful or not.

NOTE: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

## Be an 'Imperial Bookworm'

Students of Miss Carol Anderson's fifth and sixth grade class at Arlington Elementary School have every reason in the world to step up their outside reading habits. They are going to be dubbed with a high-sounding title for each five books they read outside of the regular classroom assignment, according to a plan devised by their teacher.

The first five books will entitle the student to be known henceforth as "Bookworm." Five more books and the student will become an "Honorable Bookworm."

Then, as the student plows through the books, he will become an "Imperial Bookworm" for 15 books, "Royal Bookworm" for 20 books, and a "King Bookworm" for 25 books.

We hope at least half of the class gets to that "King Bookworm" stage, because 25 books in addition to school studies — any 25 books — would do a world of good for any fifth or sixth grader.

It was time to go to church, according to a note sent to us from Dale Isenberg from Fremont, and mother's arms were full of coats and hats, but she just stood there while her five children milled around.

"Come on, come on, get a move on," ordered the father. "No," she said. "This time you wrestle them into their coats while I go outside and honk the horn."

Isenberg, who is the former manager of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, anticipated our question about

"Where's Fremont," when he reported that it was a city of 95 square miles between Oakland and San Jose and included an area formerly occupied by five small cities. It is still largely agricultural, he reports, and by way of illustration, points out that Mayor Michael Overacker Jr. operates a 900-acre sheep ranch within the city limits.

Dale also passed along a few jokes that are making the rounds at Fremont.

As an example, it has been observed there that a husband and wife must have minds that run in the same channel these days, or else have two television sets.

An insurance agent there was writing a policy for a cowboy and asked if he'd ever had any accidents.

"No," said the cowboy, then added, trying to be helpful, "a bronc kicked in a couple of my ribs and a rattlesnake bit me once."

"Well," said the agent, "don't you call those accidents?" "Nope," the cowboy said. "They done it a-purpose."

Yesterday being fire service day here, we gleaned a few gems while talking to the smoke-eaters here and there. They're telling about the fire that broke out in the High Point, N. C., fire station while the crew was having its truck motor tuned. A passing member of the county fire department put it out.

Then there was the time in Australia when two fire de-

partments roared out to put out a truck fire near Melbourne, and found the truck was loaded with 400 fire extinguishers.

And the corner fire alarm boxes in Little Chute, Wis., were ordered out by the town council when a report from the chief showed that the only time they had been used in recent years was for false alarms.

In another vein, a fireman told me Christians in early Rome had a problem similar to today's company presidents. Something was always eating up the prophets.

Sudden thought: Wouldn't it be a great idea to put the designers of ladies' bathing suits in charge of government budgets?

A staid gentleman, honorary judge at a horse show, was upset by the dress of some of the girls.

"Just look at that young person with the poodle cut, the cigarette and the blue jeans," he moaned to a bystander. "Is it a boy or a girl?"

"It's a girl, she's my daughter," the bystander said.

"Oh, forgive me, sir," said the old fellow. "I never dreamed you were her father."

"I'm not," snapped the bystander. "I'm her mother."

Just proves once more the old phrase used by hawkers at the ballpark: "You can't tell the players without a program."

## FROM OUR MAILBOX by Our Readers

## Criminals Should Walk

Juvenile Crime Editor, Torrance Herald I have read that there are some bills pertaining to the granting and, or, restricting the issuance of auto driving licenses to juveniles.

I have had cause to give considerable thought and study to the problem of juvenile delinquency and crime. Juvenile criminals and the totally unrealistic and inadequate enforcement of laws against juvenile criminals and their parents has cost me about \$1000 the past two years.

Juveniles, also adults, use autos to transport themselves to places where they plan and intend to commit some crime or willfully violate some law. They also use autos and their drivers license to go out and steal, rob, burglarize, to assemble for a gang fight, or to crash a party where they have not been invited and are not wanted — to commit willful trespass.

Suspension of a drivers license should be mandatory whenever it can be proved that an auto was used to go some place to commit a criminal act.

Juveniles value a drivers license very highly, and every boy looks forward to the day he will have a drivers license. Such a law would have considerable deterrent effect on juveniles and even on adults.

Such a provision might be put through as an amendment

to some bill now on the legislative calendar.

Write to Senator Richard Richards or Assemblyman Vincent Thomas in Sacramento if you agree with this letter.

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## About Law Day

Editor, Torrance Herald We are glad that Mayor Poulson named May 1 at "Law Day," and that he emphasized the fact that our freedom is based on law. However, he did not say that it is the law of God which brings freedom. Neither did he say that California officials have laid the law of

God on the shelf so far as the public schools are concerned.

With the law on the shelf, juvenile delinquency is on the war path. But why blame the young people, when our adults have taken from them the moral code which guided the youth of other generations? The Bible asks a question, which we are all asking today: "Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way?"

And while adults are feverishly searching for an answer, the answer is written out plainly in this same book, so that he who runs may read "by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word."

When do we start to apply the Word of God?  
David Calderwood, D.D.

## SPARKY SAYS



Replace Your Frayed Electric Cords!

Don't give fire a place to start!

## My Neighbors



"This is not a social call! I represent the United States Government... Bureau of Internal Revenue!!"

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a small cartoon of a man and a woman.